

U.S. Agency for International Development talking about restoring the services there. This book, Mr. Speaker, which is available to the public, I do have a web page: www.usaid.gov, that is the U.S. Agency for International Development, it talks about reopening the schools there, building the democracy, vaccinating children, helping small businesses and newspapers to reopen. Lots of work is being done.

Iraq is an independent country at this point. It is on its own. We need to support them. We do not need to pull the rug out from under them. We need to help them complete their journey to democracy, and it is not time for Congress to pull the rug out from under them in the name of November politics.

MEMORANDUM

To: Members.

From: Tim Murphy (PA-18).

Date: July 21, 2004.

Subject: Timeline of major terrorist activities.

As we head home for the August recess and face questions from our constituents regarding the War on Terror, I thought you might find helpful this timeline of actual and attempted terrorist attacks.

November 1979—Tehran, Iran: American Embassy attacked and seized, hostages taken—released 1981.

April 1983—Beirut: 63 people killed from truck filled with explosives driven into U.S. Embassy.

October 1983—Beirut: 241 U.S. servicemen killed from truck filled with explosives driven through main gate at U.S. Marine Corps headquarters.

September 1984—Beirut: Truck filled with explosives crashes through gate into U.S. Embassy compound in Beirut, no deaths.

August 1985—Rhein-Main, Germany: 22 killed from car filled with explosives driven into main gate at U.S. Air Force Base.

October 1985: *Achille Lauro* cruise ship hijacked, one American killed.

November 1985: Hijackers on Egyptian plane kill U.S. passengers.

December 1985—Rome and Vienna: 20 killed from suicide bombers at U.S. and Israeli international airports.

April 1988: 259 killed in bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland.

December 1992—Aden, Yemen: Two killed from bomb at Gold Mohur Hotel immediately after one hundred U.S. servicemen departed on their way to duty in Somalia.

February 1993—World Trade Center, New York City: Six deaths and more than 1,000 injuries from bombing.

October 1993—Mogadishu, Somalia: 18 U.S. servicemen killed, Bin Laden claims he supplied weapons and fighters to Somalis involved in the battle.

1994—New York City: Investigators thwarted attempt to blow up Holland and Lincoln tunnels and other New York City landmarks.

Late 1994 early 1995—Manila, Philippines: Investigators discovered plots to assassinate the Pope and President Clinton during visits to the Philippines.

1995: Investigators discovered plans to explode a dozen commercial jets over the Pacific.

June 1995—Addis Ababa, Ethiopia: Unsuccessful attempt to assassinate Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak.

November 1995—Riyadh, Saudi Arabia: Five Americans killed by car bomb at a U.S.-run training facility for the Saudi National Guard.

June 1996—Dhahran, Saudi Arabia: 19 U.S. airmen killed by truck bomb at the Khobar

Towers apartment compound where hundreds of U.S. Air Force personnel were stationed.

August 1998—Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania & Nairobi, Kenya: 224 killed, including 12 Americans, and more than 5,000 wounded by truck bombs at U.S. embassies in both cities.

December 1999—Port Angeles, Washington: U.S. Customs agents stopped Ahmed Ressam from crossing out of Canada into the U.S. with a truck full of explosives headed to Los Angeles airport.

December 1999—Amman, Jordan: Intelligence officials reveal plot to kill U.S. and Israeli citizens by bombing a fully booked hotel and prominent Christian sites over millennium celebrations.

October 2000—Aden, Yemen: 17 sailors killed and 30 wounded when terrorists on boat rigged with explosives attack the U.S.S. *Cole*.

September 2001—New York City; Washington, DC; Shanksville, Pennsylvania: Thousands killed from four hijacked passenger airliners crashed into New York City's two tallest buildings, the Pentagon and a field in rural Pennsylvania.

September 2001—Paris and Brussels: Intelligence officials uncover evidence of plots to bomb the U.S. embassy in Paris, and possibly also NATO headquarters in Brussels.

October 2001—Sarajevo, Bosnia: NATO officials break up an al-Qaeda cell planning to attack the U.S. embassy and Eagle Base airfield, home base to 3,000 U.S. peacekeepers.

December 2001: Richard Reid attempts to blow up a commercial flight from United Kingdom en route to United States using bombs hidden in his shoes.

March 2004—Madrid, Spain: 198 killed and more than 1,400 wounded from 10 coordinated bomb detonations on Madrid subway during commuter rush hour.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. BROWN) is recognized for 5 minutes.

(Mr. BROWN of Ohio addressed the House. His remarks will appear hereafter in the Extensions of Remarks.)

ORDER OF BUSINESS

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take my special order at this time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from South Dakota?

There was no objection.

SOCIAL SECURITY COST OF LIVING ADJUSTMENT PROTECTION ACT

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Under a previous order of the House, the gentleman from South Dakota (Ms. HERSETH) is recognized for 5 minutes.

Ms. HERSETH. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing the Social Security Cost of Living Adjustment Protection Act of 2004. As my colleagues know, I am a new Member of Congress. This legislation, which will protect the retirement incomes of millions of Americans, marks the first bill that I have introduced.

□ 2245

To me, this bill represents the partial fulfillment of a pledge I made to thousands of seniors in South Dakota that

if they sent me to Washington, I would fight for them, stand by them and make their voice heard. This bill meets that goal by helping to ensure retirement security for every senior who depends upon his or her monthly social security check to make ends meet.

I am joined today in introducing this bill by our Democratic leader, the gentlewoman from California (Ms. PELOSI), and by two senior members of the Committee on Ways and Means, the gentleman from California (Mr. STARK), the ranking member of the Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Health; and the gentleman from California (Mr. MATSUI), the ranking member of the Committee on Ways and Means Subcommittee on Social Security.

In addition, I deeply appreciate the support of the many additional Members who are joining us in sponsoring this legislation today. Our bill will protect senior citizens from seeing the modest annual increase they receive in their social security benefits absorbed by the rising cost of health care. For retirees who depend on social security benefits to live, the only defense against increasing prices for food, clothing, and energy is the annual cost-of-living adjustment. However, rising Medicare premiums are threatening to severely diminish the purchasing power of this yearly increase in benefits.

In fact, this fall retirees are projected to face the largest premium increase in the history of the program. This means that next year a widow with a \$600 monthly social security check will use 59 percent of her COLA just to pay the increase in her Medicare premium.

Every dollar that goes toward rising Medicare premiums is one less she can use to pay for groceries or her utility bill. We are not wealthy in South Dakota. Retirees in my State clip coupons. They put off buying the things they need. They live modestly, because that is what they have to do to get by. So it is no exaggeration to say that retirees in South Dakota need every penny of their COLA, not just so they can maintain a basic standard of living, but so they can maintain their dignity.

This legislation protects retirees by ensuring that no more than 25 percent of their COLA can be absorbed by the increase in Medicare premiums. Next year, it will protect more than 27 million retirees who otherwise would see their scarce dollars taken from food, clothing and other essential purchases.

I hope that Congress will take up and pass this legislation quickly, because the need for it is real and immediate. This fall, just as Medicare premiums go up, temperatures in South Dakota will be going down. Seniors will sit at their kitchen tables reading through their bills, and they may wonder yet again how they are going to make it through the month. We owe them to do better, and I hope that we will.